2021 Jun-01 PM 04:52 U.S. DISTRICT COURT N.D. OF ALABAMA

## Exhibit 306

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1
           IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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           FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
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                    SOUTHERN DIVISION
5
    IN RE: BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD
    Master File No. 2:13 CV 20000 RDP
6
    ANTITRUST LITIGATION
8
    MDL NO. 2406
9
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11
             VIDEO DEPOSITION OF KARI HEDGES
12
      30(b)(6) Blue Cross Blue Shield Association
13
                     KIRKLAND & ELLIS
14
                    300 North LaSalle
15
                 Chicago, Illinois 60654
16
                    August 29th, 2017
17
18
                 * * * CONFIDENTIAL * * *
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22
    REPORTED BY:
23
        Angela Smith McGalliard,
24
        Certified Shorthand Reporter
25
        and Notary Public.
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- be discussed in today's meeting.
- Q. Okay. What -- What is the
- 3 Association's position on why Exclusive Service
- <sup>4</sup> Areas are necessary?
- 5 A. So the Association believes that
- 6 the Exclusive Service Areas are necessary
- because it helps provide a number of benefits
- to the healthcare industry, to subscribers and
- 9 to providers; it enables Plans to focus on
- their exclusive service area. As a result,
- 11 Blue Plans go much deeper into each of their
- markets if there's a motivating factor to
- contract with providers throughout its
- 14 exclusive service area to be able to offer
- services to all the members within its market
- and to be able to provide those services to
- those members.
- 18 It encourages deep relationships
- with the community in those markets. And also
- 20 encourages Plans to make investments in the
- strength of the Blue brands in those markets.
- 22 As a result, we have more contracted providers
- on a national basis than our competitors, with
- ninety-six percent of hospitals and, I believe,
- it's ninety-two or ninety-four percent of

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- 1 physicians contracted with Blue Cross Blue
- 2 Shield Plans; we're able to offer coverage to
- over a hundred and five million members
- 4 nationally; and we're able to provide the
- 5 community resources and do a lot of community
- 6 development within those markets.
- 8 We have relationships with both
- 9 large institutions and small institutions in
- major metropolitan areas, as well as the rural
- 11 ZIP codes around the country.
- 12 Q. Is there any other reason why the
- 13 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association believes
- 14 Exclusive Service Areas are necessary, other
- than what you've just listed for me?
- 16 A. The other item that I would
- 17 highlight that the Association sees as a
- benefit of the Exclusive Service Areas, is it
- encourages cooperation among the Blue Plans to
- be able to service national customers and
- encourages based on their depth of the markets
- that they've been able to develop.
- Q. Is there anything else?
- A. That's what I recall.
- Q. Now, in the -- In testifying to